

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING FEBRUARY 10, 2015

My name is Jennifer Herz and I am Assistant Counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA). CBIA has been representing Connecticut's employers for 200 years and today is proud to say the vast majority of our members are small companies employing less than 50 people.

CBIA submits this testimony in regard to HB 6676 An Act Concerning the Administration of Social Services Programs because we believe competition between public and private providers will increase effective and efficient delivery of public services.

Specifically, CBIA supports an environment where state agencies and private non-profit community organizations compete for projects on a level playing field. This type of system would ensure services are provided in the most effective manner possible – this is not intended to simply focus on cost but drive performance. While more details need to be discussed this general framework will support efficiency and cost-effective delivery.

Further, CBIA wishes to highlight reports from the Institute for the 21st Century that can be found at www.ct21.org and in particular the Framework for Connecticut's Fiscal Future Part 5: A Survival Plan for our Splintered Human Services Delivery System.

I look forward to the opportunity to work with the committee on this concept. Thank you for the opportunity to submit CBIA's comments.